

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An operational amplifier includes: a differential input section for generating a first signal corresponding to a differential voltage between two input signals; an amplifying section for amplifying the first signal in voltage to
5 generate second and third complementary signals; a first MOS transistor connected between a first supply voltage and an output node, a conduction state of the first MOS transistor being controlled in accordance with the second signal; a second MOS transistor connected between a second supply voltage and the output node, a conduction state of the second MOS transistor being
10 controlled in accordance with the third signal; and a step-up section for stepping up the first and second supply voltages to generate a step-up voltage higher than the first and second supply voltages; wherein the amplifying section is driven by the step-up voltage so that absolute value of the maximum level of the second or third signal becomes larger than the absolute value of the
15 first or second supply voltage.